

Project report

August 2004

County M under construction, will remain open to traffic

Overview

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation began reconstructing Dane County M as a new four-lane highway from Willow Road to WIS 113 on August 11. Work includes constructing bicycle facilities, installing traffic signals and improving intersection layouts, railroad crossings and drainage.

The old County M will be converted into an access road to tie into Westport Road and improve access from Westport Road, Blue Bill Park Drive and all adjacent properties between these two roads.

To minimize travel impacts, County M will remain open to through traffic until mid-October. The project is scheduled for completion in mid-November 2004.

How traffic will be handled

Phase 1: Two-way traffic will remain on existing County M from the western project limit to WIS 113. Willow Road, Westport Road and the south leg of Blue Bill Park Drive will remain open with traffic on the existing pavement. The north leg of Blue Bill Park Drive will remain open to two lanes on at least a gravel surface. However, lanes may need to be reduced at times with flag persons directing motorists through the work zone.

Phase 2: In about mid-October, County M traffic will run counter-directional on the westbound lanes of new County M between Woodland Drive and Blue Bill Park Drive. At the new intersection of County M and Westport Road/Blue Bill Park Drive, eastbound traffic will be shifted to the new eastbound lanes. One lane of traffic will be open in both the westbound and eastbound direction. A combination of permanent and temporary signals will also be placed at the new intersection of County M and Westport Road/Blue Bill Park Drive.

The intersection of County M and Westport Road/Blue Bill Park Drive and the intersection of Westport Road and Blue Bill Park Drive will remain open to two lanes on at least a gravel surface. However, lanes may need to be reduced at times with flag persons directing motorists through the work zone.

Schedule

August 11 to November 19, 2004

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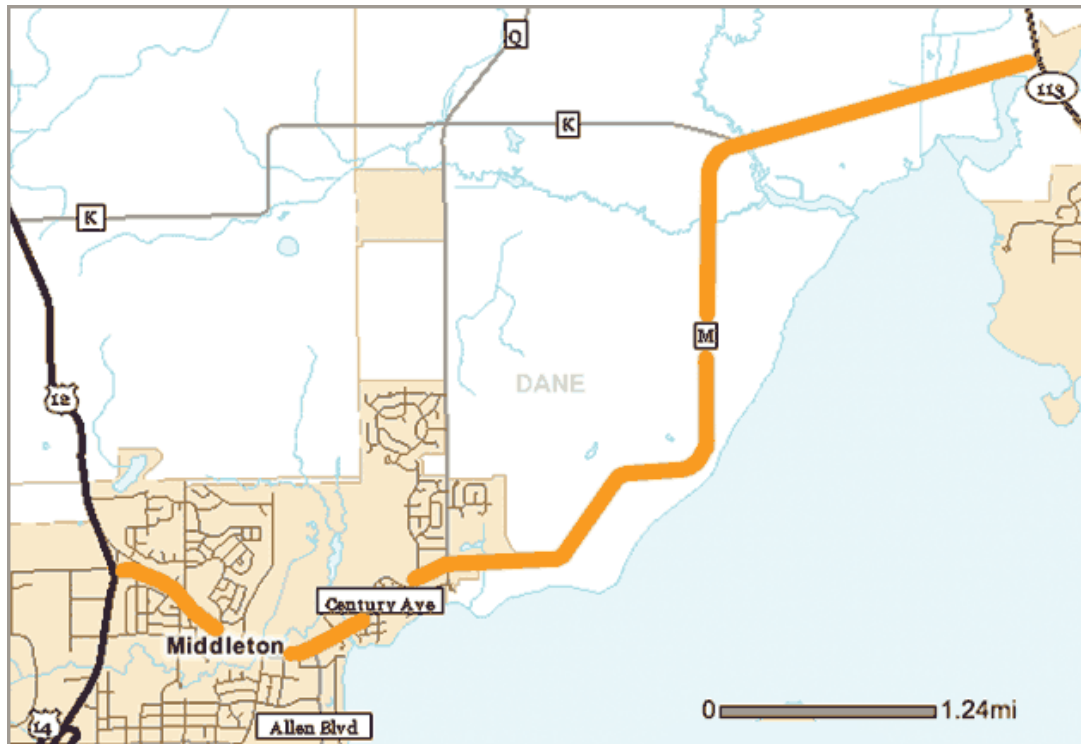
Mission statement:

To provide leadership in the development and operation of a safe and efficient transportation system.



The eastern access to Willow Road may be closed during phase 2. The western access to Willow Road will remain open at all times.

The right turning ramp from County M to WIS 113 will remain closed until the contractor completes construction of the entrance ramp along WIS 113. The southern eastbound lane will remain closed between Blue Bill Park Drive and just east of the railroad tracks until crews complete construction of the entrance ramp along WIS 113. Once the entrance ramp is completed, the south eastbound lane will be opened.



The County M project is the first phase of a three-phase contract to improve County M between Middleton and WIS 113. Phase 2 from Signature Drive to Willow Road is currently scheduled for 2006 construction and Phase 3 from West Point Road to Signature Drive is anticipated to be constructed in 2007.

Related projects

Other projects taking place in the area during the 2004 construction season include:

- US 12 from Middleton to Sauk City
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/d1/us12/index.htm>
- US 51 County CV to Reardon Road
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/d1/us51deforest/index.htm>
- WIS 113 reconstruction from Madison to Waunakee
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/d1/wis113madison/index.htm>